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change in the crew personnel at this port; on the same date the Belgian steamship *Camoens*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, 2 first-class and 21 steerage passengers from this port, and with no change in the personnel of the crew while in this port.

The variola epidemic in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

A letter lately received from Rio Grande states as follows in regard to the epidemic of variola in that city:

According to the obtainable data we believe that the epidemic now existing had its origin during 1904. Following is a record of cases in the past few years: On August 21, 1903, there arrived here the steam packet *Prudente de Moraes* with one person ill with variola, and this man was taken at once to the lazaretto. In September, the following month, there were 5 cases reported, and in October there was 1 reported case. During the next year, 1904, there were 2 cases reported in February; then none until April, when there was 1 notification of a case of variola, followed by 3 cases in June, and of this number 2 persons were employed in the same newspaper office.

I doubt, however, if the cases reported up to date had any connection with the present epidemic.

However, in July, 1904, there were 11 cases reported from various sections of the city; in August, 36; in September, 52; in October, 66; in November, 123; in December, 46. The great increase in the monthly reports comes, however, with the beginning of this year; in January, 1905, there were 154 cases; in February, 114, all these in the warm summer months when people, especially the poorer persons, live out of doors so much, and are therefore less apt to contract variola than in the cold, damp winter weather, when huddled within badly ventilated houses; in March, 129; in April, 127; in May, 210, and up to June 22, the date of the letter, there had been 212 cases reported.

This gives a total of 946 cases during this current year, with 267 deaths, about a mortality of 28 per cent.

Infectious diseases in Bahia, State of Bahia, Brazil.

Reports received from Bahia show that during the month of June there were 30 deaths from infectious diseases reported by the disinfection service. Of this number 28 were due to tuberculosis, 1 to typhoid fever, and 1 to dysentery.

Of the 28 deaths from typhoid fever 19 were females; 3 were between 10 and 20 years old, 8 between 20 and 30 years, 10 between 30 and 40 years, 1 between 40 and 50 years, 4 between 50 and 60 years, and 1 over 60 years of age.

There were also 60 cases of variola reported to the health department, and in addition there were 12 cases of this disease which presented themselves at the isolation hospital for admission, making in all a total of 72. Of this number 2 had been previously vaccinated, and the remaining 70 had never been vaccinated.

Bubonic plague in Argentine Republic.

A report of date of the 20th instant states that there has been a reappearance of this disease in Santiago del Estero. The sanitary authorities are taking every possible precaution to prevent the spread of the disease, and are especially directing their efforts toward extermination of rats, both in private dwellings as well as in public buildings.

A dispatch of the 25th instant states that the disease reported on the 20th instant has been verified as true plague, but that so far all cases have been extremely mild in character.